

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4602

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 1875

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, TC, TU, EG, SA, KU, IR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT BY MEMBERS OF US ADVISORY COMMISSION ON
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

REF: STATE 166702

USIA FOR INA

EMBASSY WELCOMES VISIT BY MEMBERS OF US ADVISORY COMMISSION
BUT WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT ASIDE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL
VISITORS AND THE MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECTS THERE IS NO
EXCHANGE PROGRAM UNDERWAY NOR ARE ANY CONTEMPLATED IN THE NEAR
FUTURE. THERE WILL NOT BE A UNIVERSITY IN THE UAE UNTIL THE
FALL OF 1977; HOWEVER, THE COMMISSION MEMBERS MAY WISH TO
INTRODUCE FUTURE EXCHANGE POSSIBILITIES WITH MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION OFFICIALS AT THIS TIME.

AS THE UAE IS RICH OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRY, THE GOVERN-
MENT FUNDS MOST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN STUDY ABROAD
AND THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DOES SEEK EMBASSY ASSISTANCE
IN COUNSELING AND WITH PLACEMENT PROCEDURES. MOST ARAB
AND WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ACCREDITED TO THE UAE HAVE
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SIMILAR VIP VISITOR PROGRAMES, AND THE BRITISH COUNCIL

OFFERS COUNSELING AND PLACEMENT SERVICES FOR UAR BURSARY STUDENTS GOINT TO THE UK. THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND OFFERS AN EXTENSION PROGRAM IN THE EMIRATE OF SHARJAH BUT ATTENDANCE IS PREDOMINANTLY EX-PATRIATE.

IN VIEW OF PRESENT LACK OF ACADEMIC AND CULTURAL ACTIVITY IN THE UAE, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE COMMISSION MEMBERS WOULD FIND LIMITED ADVANTAGE TO UAE VISIT; HOWEVER, EMBASSY WOULD BE HAIPY TO ASSIST IN ANY EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS AND FACILITATE VISIT.

PLEASE ADVISE.
STERNER

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